

R E M A R K S

This Paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on March 6, 2006 and having a statutory response period that ends on June 6, 2006. This Paper is submitted the statutory response period. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account number 02-1818.

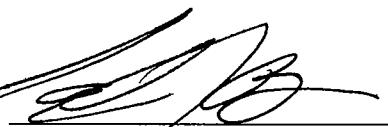
Claims 1-11, 13-33 and 35-41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over International Publication No. WO 01/18112 to Ding et al. (*Ding*). Applicants respectfully traverse and disagree with this alleged rejection as *Ding* is not prior art with respect to the present application.

Ding has a filing date of September 8, 2000 and a publication date of March 15, 2001. Both of these dates are after the filing date of the present application, namely March 16, 2000. *Ding* therefore fails to constitute prior art under any subsection of 35 U.S.C. §102.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit reconsideration of same.

Respectfully submitted,
BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

Date: June 6, 2006

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